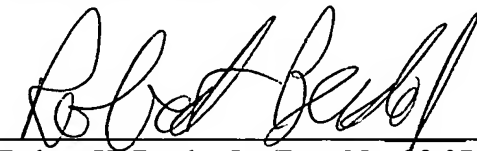


**REMARKS**

Claim 3 is amended to eliminate multiple claims dependencies, and new claim 10 has been added. Please enter the Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the filing fee. Examination of the amended application respectfully is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

December 15, 2004  
Date



Robert H. Berdo, Jr. (Reg. No. 38,075)  
RABIN & BERDO, P.C.  
CUSTOMER NO. 23995  
(202) 371-8976  
(202) 408-0924 fax

RHB:tl